



Mayor Linda Gorton and the Urban County Council welcome Social Services leadership to receive a proclamation during the March 5th Council Meeting.



SOCIAL WORK MONTH

WHEREAS, for generations, members of the Social Work Profession have worked to strengthen the well-being and meet the basic needs of all people, especially people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, this year's Social Work Month theme, "*Social Workers: Generations Strong*," focuses on the heroic work of social workers, who make our society a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, members of the Social Work Profession are a diverse group, including people of various generations, ethnic backgrounds, sexual identities and religious beliefs; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers have an immediate positive impact on our local communities, our nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS, our city's Department of Social Services employs over 30 social work professionals, whose training and ethical standards help promote the values of compassion, compliance, coordination, and consistency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINDA GORTON, MAYOR OF LEXINGTON,
DO HEREBY DECLARE MARCH, 2020,
SOCIAL WORK MONTH IN LEXINGTON.**

Linda Gorton
MAYOR



This month in

The Loop:

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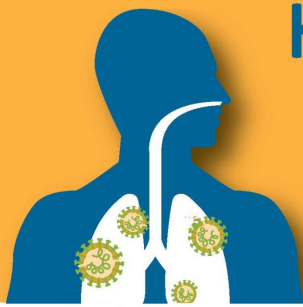
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Chris Ford, Commissioner
Dept. of Social Services



HELPING LEXINGTON PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING

COVID-19

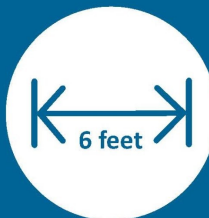
Although senior adults and those with chronic health conditions are at higher risk for complications of COVID-19, the CDC recommends the following social distancing practices for everyone.



- Stay home as much as possible.
- Work from home if possible.



- Make sure you have access to medications & supplies during this time.



- When you go out in public, keep 6 feet away from others, avoid close contact and wash your hands often.



- Avoid crowds or any type of gathering.

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19



FEVER



COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH

SPREADS
THROUGH
CLOSE
CONTACT

TAKE EVERYDAY PRECAUTIONS



WASH YOUR HANDS



DON'T TOUCH FACE



AVOID SICK PEOPLE

INFORMATION & UPDATES
www.lfchd.org



LFCHD 03/18/2020

TEMPORARY CLOSURES

[Fayette County Public Schools](#)

[Lexington Public Library](#)

[City Community Centers](#)

HOW TO STAY INFORMED?

The City's [COVID-19 Response in Lexington](#)

[Lexington-Fayette County Health Department](#)

The Health Department's Covid-19 Call Center
Number: (859) 899-2222

[Daily updates on COVID-19 cases in Kentucky](#)

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

[Coronavirus Response Fund](#)

In partnership with United Way of the Bluegrass and Blue Grass Community Foundation



CITY SUSPENDS PROGRAMS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

March 11, 2020

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Mayor Linda Gorton announced that the city will suspend programs for senior citizens, effective Friday, March 13, because of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

Beginning on March 13, there will be no programming for seniors at the Senior Center, the Charles Young Center, the Bell House, or Black and Williams Center, which hosts Elder Crafters. The centers will be closed to the public.

"Senior adults and those with chronic health conditions are at higher risk for complications of COVID-19," said Mayor Linda Gorton. "The CDC recommends people over the age of 60, and anyone with heart, lung or kidney disease, cancer or diabetes, stay at home as much as possible. We know this virus is most dangerous for our seniors. We need to take steps to protect them."

While the programming is suspended, staff members' responsibilities will shift to involve more outreach to seniors at home. Bluegrass Community Action Partnership, which works with the City, will deliver lunch to seniors who depend on the meals at the Senior Center.

Gorton said the programming will be reinstated as soon as possible. "We know our seniors enjoy these programs, and we hope to get them back on line as soon as we get past the threat of this virus," she said.

TEAMING UP TO FIGHT HUNGER FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

March 18, 2020 Reprinted with permission from Lexington Public Information Office

City employees and community volunteers will start work this week on pre-packaging food in boxes that can be distributed to families. The goal is to find a safe way to distribute food with social distancing, rather than having families shop in a crowd. Distribution of the food boxes is expected to begin in about a week at God's Pantry Food Bank sites, Mayor Linda Gorton said.

"These boxes hold enough food to feed an average family for a week," Gorton said. "Thanks to everyone for working together to help these families." The Food Bank estimates 10,000 food boxes will be needed per month to assist Fayette County and some portions of the broader 50-county service area served by the Food Bank.

Mike Halligan, Chief Executive Officer of God's Pantry Food Bank, said, "We're so very grateful for the support to help us fight hunger. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted us all in profound ways. We are committed to continuing our services across Central and Eastern Kentucky, while ensuring the social distancing needed to stop this virus."

Families in Fayette County should call 859-259-2308, and those beyond Fayette should visit www.godspantry.org/help to find closest site. Eligibility is based on income and household size.

Commissioner of Social Services Chris Ford said, "Through coordination and safe social distancing, this partnership exemplifies Lexington's resilient spirit, by bridging an unconventional response for those who need our support."



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE CENSUS!

It only takes a few moments to respond, either by phone, online or in the mail.



2020Census.gov
www.WeCountLex.org



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